



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 228

February Session, 2004

House Bill No. 5601

House of Representatives, March 24, 2004

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR of the 99th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADDITIONAL SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT FOR UNPAID FINES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective October 1, 2004*) Section 18-13 of the general
- 2 statutes is repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>
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JUD *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Correction, Dept.	GF - Savings	Minimal	Minimal
Correction, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The number of offenders who will be impacted by this proposal is anticipated to be minimal. Hence, passage of the bill would result in a minimal savings to the Department of Correction due to freed bed space.

Passage of the bill would also result in a potential revenue gain since it is expected that arrangements would be made for the payment of relevant fines following an offenders release from prison.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5601

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADDITIONAL SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT FOR UNPAID FINES**SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates a requirement that a prisoner serving a sentence at Somers prison that includes the imposition of a fine to serve an additional sentence of one day for each three dollars of the fine unpaid after his prison term expires.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2004

BACKGROUND***Related Laws***

Inmates held in prison because of failing to pay a fine are credited \$50 a day and an additional \$50 for each day they are employed at productive or maintenance work with a satisfactory work record (CGS § 18-50).

The Department of Correction (DOC) commissioner has established a compensation schedule for services performed on behalf of the state by inmates of any DOC institution or facility. Any sums earned must be deposited, under the direction of the administrative head of such institution or facility, in a savings bank or state bank and trust company in Connecticut and must be paid to the inmate on his discharge. But the warden or administrator may, while the inmate is in custody, disburse any money the inmate earns in accordance with the following priorities: (1) federal taxes due; (2) court-ordered restitution or payment of compensation to a crime victim; (3) payment of a civil judgment rendered in favor of a crime victim by any court of competent jurisdiction; (4) victim compensation through the criminal injuries account administered by the Office of Victim Services; (5) state taxes due; (6) support of dependents, if any; (7) the inmate's necessary travel expense to and from work and other incidental expenses; (8) costs of his board as determined by the commissioner; and (9) payment for a fine when an inmate is held only for paying a fine. Any interest

that accrues must be credited to any institutional inmate welfare fund (CGS § 18-85).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 38 Nay 0